

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Surface coating materials useful in the present invention include

P(vinylpyrrolidinone(VP)-co-acrylic acid(AA)), P(methylvinylether-alt-maleic acid), P(acrylic acid-graft-ethyleneoxide), P(acrylic acid-co-methacrylic acid), P(acrylamide-co-AA), P(AA-co-maleic), and P(butadiene-maleic acid). --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 12, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Solvents useful in the surface treatment (contacting) step of the present invention include solvents that readily solubilize proton donating solutes such as carboxylic acids, sulfonic acids, fumaric acid, maleic acids, anhydrides such as maleic anhydride and functionalized alcohols such as vinyl alcohol. Preferred solvents include tetrahydrofuran (THF), acetonitrile, N,N-dimethyl formamide (DMF), and water. The most preferred solvent is water. --

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 3, 8 and 14.

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (amended) A method for improving the wettability of a medical device, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a medical device formed from a monomer mixture comprising a hydrophilic monomer and a silicone-containing monomer, wherein said medical device has not been subjected to a surface oxidation treatment;

(b) contacting a surface of the medical device with a wetting agent solution comprising at least one proton-donating wetting agent selected from the group consisting of P(vinylpyrrolidinone(VP)-co-acrylic acid(AA)), P(methylvinylether-alt-maleic acid), P(acrylic acid-graft-ethyleneoxide), P(acrylic acid-co-methacrylic acid), P(acrylamide-co-AA), P(acrylamide-co-AA), P(AA-co-maleic), and P(butadiene-maleic acid), whereby the wetting agent forms a complex with the hydrophilic monomer on the surface of the medical device in the absence of a surface oxidation treatment step and without the addition of a coupling agent.